

BUTTE INTER MOUNTAIN

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1903.

FREAK TAXATION.

The limit of freak legislation is almost reached in Indiana, where a member of the legislature has introduced a bill to tax coal that is not yet mined. There may be no coal under the surface, but the man leasing the supposed vein must pay a tax the same as if it was there.

The able law-giver, while he is about it, might as well go further and levy a tax on any gold, silver, diamonds or rubies that may lie still deeper in the earth. But it isn't exactly the way to encourage the development of a state's resources. A bill with practically the same object in view was killed in the senate at Helena yesterday and hardly a protesting voice was raised in its behalf.

If the tax man is reasonably vigilant and gathers the taxes on things in sight and tangible he will serve his country to more purpose.

PRETENDER FOR SALE

There is a good deal of indefinite news in regard to Pretender Buhamara. There is just enough mystery about the bad man to stimulate the imagination of the alert correspondent. The latest bit of valuable intelligence is that Buhamara has been captured by certain tribesmen and that they offer their distinguished prisoner for sale.

The market for pretenders is necessarily limited. So far as this particular and pernicious pretender is concerned, the sultan of Turkey is the only prospective buyer. Being a little cramped for funds, the sultan is not an active bidder. Buhamara is a positive drug on the market. The tribesmen who control the supply have a corner, of course; but what does it amount to if nobody bids for their goods? They might create a demand by taking a lesson from the United Copper company and resorting to "wash sales." By this able stratagem they may unload their unwashed pretender, but if they do they will have accomplished more than the United Copper people have so far been able to do or are likely to do.

WATER IN MONTANA

The department of agriculture at Washington has supplied the Inter Mountain with some figures in regard to what it calls the "duty of water" in the irrigation of land in Montana.

The object sought in making measurements at the experiment station in this state during the year 1901 was to determine the quantity of water used by farmers in irrigating staple crops under usual conditions. In selecting the fields for detail work care was taken that they should represent average conditions. The fact was recognized that there is great difference in the efficiency of ditches; some, by reason of their length and the character of material through which they pass, lose a large percentage of the volume of water which passes their headgates. Since it was desired to ascertain the quantity required to irrigate growing crops, the water was measured as it entered the field. In this way the losses of water by seepage and evaporation were practically eliminated from field experiments which were conducted at the experiment station at Bozeman. The land was used principally for the growing of grain, clover and alfalfa. It should be noted that the soil consists of from four to five feet or loam and marly clay underlain by an undetermined depth of gravel and cobble stones. A few of the 12 experiments made at the station may be taken as fairly representative.

Field No. 1, in clover, was irrigated twice between May 1 and September 7. The depth of the water used in irrigation was 11 inches, rainfall 8 inches; total depth of water received during growth, 19 inches.

In field No. 2, also in clover, the depth of water applied in three irrigations during the growing season was 22 inches, rainfall 8 inches; total depth received, 30 inches. The yield of clover from this field was 3 1/2 tons an acre.

An experiment with a field of wheat is reported showing two irrigations, one in June and the other in July, during which the depth of water applied by irrigation was 1 1/2 inches and rainfall 5 inches, making 1 1/2 inches of water applied to the land during the growing season. The yield was 43 bushels an acre.

Lands under Middle Creek canal, comprising an area of 3,186 acres, cultivated in grain and clover, received a depth of 28 inches by irrigation and 9 inches by rainfall, making a total of 37 inches of water used between May 1 and September 30. This, however, is the quantity measured at the headgate and included loss by seepage and evaporation.

An interesting experiment on a 40-acre tract of a 6-year-old orchard on the Bitter Root Stock farm shows that by four irrigations, between April 15 and September 2, a depth of 18 inches of water was applied, to which should be added a rainfall of 6 inches, making a total depth of 24

inches of water used upon the orchard during the season.

The conclusions of the department are that "the duty of water" in many cases may be nearly doubled by the proper care of ditches and judicious application of water.

HARD COAL SUPPLY

Experts have known for some time that the anthracite coal deposits of Pennsylvania are within sight of exhaustion.

In a recent work upon the anthracite industry by Dr. Peter Roberts, the writer cites the estimates of three of the most eminent experts. The lowest estimate on tons yet to be mined is 4,832,685,668, the highest 6,512,167,703; the lowest estimate of years' duration, 80.54; the highest, 108.53. These estimates are made upon the assumption that production and consumption do not exceed 60,000,000 tons annually, but as the prospects are that before long that limit will be far exceeded, it is clear that in less than a century there will be no more hard coal to quarrel over unless large deposits are found outside of Pennsylvania. Of this the prospects are not very flattering. The best indications of a hard coal deposit worth while are in Colorado.

Montana, having about everything else worth mining for, has hard coal, but we are not yet prepared to promise a world-supply of it.

"ALL IS NOT GOLD"

The Inter Mountain has had occasion to press upon the public the fact that "all is not gold that glitters" in the prospect of the mine promoter, especially those numerous promoters of mines who are not mining men. Taking up this subject, the Salt Lake Tribune notes that "far-off fowls have feathers fair." Tremendous strikes of rich gold-producing mines in remote regions are so frequently reported that if all were true then gold should be as abundant in all the cities as it was in Jerusalem in the time of Solomon. But, unfortunately, we do not as a rule hear much more about these great gold deposits after the first announcement, and gold is still scarce enough to serve as standard coin. It would be a great thing for the world, though, if more of these discoveries should prove lasting; this latest one from Mexico, for instance, close to the Arizona line, picked samples of which yield as high as 3,000 ounces to the ton, in gold, or say close upon \$75,000—a fortune in every ton of ore. And "the vein can be traced through three hills," too! We hope that it is all as the enthusiastic discoverer represents, but as it took him six weeks to take out \$150,000, there is the usual possibility of mistake.

SUFFRAGE SLAUGHTER

The slaughter of the woman's suffrage bill in the house at Helena yesterday was an example of woman proposing and man disposing. The women are discouraged, of course, but they are still in the ring. Art is long and time is fleeting, but there are other legislatures to come. Hope springs eternal in the suffrage breast. The women have received fine promises at Helena, but they now see how true it is that promises, no matter how fine they may be, butter no parsnips. The women will return home to their babies—those of them that have babies—and as they rock the cradle and darn the old man's stockings, will lay the wires for another campaign. It is possible that in some cases they will permit the old man to darn his own stockings by way of retaliation and revenge.

A New York clipping bureau has just delivered to the Postal Telegraph company the twenty albums containing the obituaries published in the newspapers of the late John W. Mackay, the old-time miner. Most of these obituaries were eulogies. There were over 5,000 clippings to each set, covering 1,536 pages. This is said to be the largest collection of material ever gathered concerning the death of a private individual.

Our esteemed friends, the prohibitionists, and even those who are willing to compromise on moderate drinking, have a new grievance in the action of the French chamber of deputies in voting \$240,000 for the purpose of supplying French troops with wine. Those who are fighting the canteen in the United States will find fresh cause for woe and heart-ache in the precedent which this action of the French government will establish. Governmental encouragement of the drinking habit is a bad thing from their standpoint.

A New York club woman coming home the other night met a policeman who spoke rudely to her. She took his night-stick from him, beat him with it, and, as stated by a local chronicler, "caused his head to become so swollen that he has been laid off for 10 days." It was a swell club affair.

Senator Patterson of Colorado told an Eastern reporter that the best period of his life was spent with a traveling circus. This shows where the senator obtained his perfection in leaping from one party to another.

Capt. Richard Pearson Hobson has resigned from the navy and will run for congress. Captain Hobson will find that it is more dangerous to run on the Kansas City platform than to sink a dozen Merrimacs.

A Mankato negro was shot while robbing a hen-house, and it is thought he will die. The owner of the hen-house says he knows nothing of the affair. The negro, of course, has been fowlly dealt with.

Miss Wanza Hogger lives at Delta, Colo. She should meet the young man from Great Falls, who proved his ability in that line recently by breaking a young lady's ribs in the performance.

A San Francisco man fell on the sidewalk and broke his right arm recently. He is now the subject of many congratulations from his friends over the fact that he is left-handed.

From this distance it looks as if someone had blown out the gas in Delaware.

One of the largest milk dealers of

cago has been converted at a revival. His patrons doubtless hope he will now lead a purer life.

The press dispatches say that General Miles was given a cordial reception by King Edward. It is not stated what came after the "cordials."

ABOUT PEOPLE

F. N. Wild is here from Boulder. Edward Cardwell of Jefferson county, one of Montana's pioneers, is in Butte, a guest at the Finlen.

Dr. W. H. Pittwood of Great Falls is at the Finlen. C. S. Haire, a Helena architect, is at the Thornton.

John G. Morony, cashier of the First National bank of Great Falls, is a Butte visitor.

J. W. Gates of Denver is at the Thornton.

Charles S. Fee, the general passenger agent of the Northern Pacific, who spent yesterday in Helena, departed last night for St. Paul. Mr. Fee entertained a number of friends at dinner at the Finlen hotel last night. Mr. Fee was not in a position to make any predictions as to the new depot that has often been promised Butte.

E. A. Gray, the well-known representative of the Northwestern railroad, arrived from Helena last night and registered at the Thornton.

A. J. Davidson of Helena, who was appointed by Governor Toole as president of the honorary commission from this state at the St. Louis fair and who is liable to be president of the permanent commission as soon as the legislature enacts the necessary measures, is in Butte.

Mr. and Mrs. James Murray are at the Del Monte at Monterey, Cal.

E. N. Wood, vice president and general manager of the Hennessy Mercantile company, departed yesterday afternoon over the Oregon Short Line for a visit in California.

Richard T. Starr, the local agent for the Great Northern Express company, has returned from Seattle, whither he accompanied Mrs. Starr, who will spend several weeks upon the coast visiting.

Fred W. Agatz, manager of the Helena theater, arrived from Helena yesterday afternoon to confer with John Cort of Seattle, the head of the theatrical syndicate.

Mrs. H. J. Schreiner and Miss Ann Dayton of Pony arrived in Butte last evening.

Judge Knowles today granted the defendant in the case of J. P. Collins, administrator of the Rocky Mountain Bell Telephone company, in which the demurrer to the complaint was overruled yesterday, until February 24 to file its answer.

The demurrer to the complaint in the case of Joseph J. Hudna against the Britania Cold Mining company will be argued before Judge Knowles next Monday, the court having fixed that date today.

Reading of the testimony in the Clark timber case still occupies the boards in Judge Knowles' court.

WHAT HAPPENED TWENTY-ONE YEARS AGO TODAY

Why Just Read These Extracts From the Files of the Inter Mountain of That Date and Be Made Wise.

The people of the city are anxious to witness another entertainment by the Library club.

The new level in the 100-foot compartment shaft of the Magna charta was reached today.

The Montana Copper company shipped more freight out of the territory last year than the entire county of Lewis and Clarke. That is why Helena is anxious that the Madras tunnel should be built.

There is a lot of talk of licensing dogs in the city.

The name of the musical organization formerly known as the Alice band will be changed to the Miners' Union band. It will be under the leadership of Prof. Corey.

J. H. Bonner is in the city. He is looking after his business interests.

The many friends of genial J. K. Bayce, jr., hear with regret that he is confined to his bed with pneumonia.

The freight receipts of the city of Butte are larger than nearly all of the balance of the territory, with a center and corner cities of diamonds. It was three years in the making.

There is much complaint over the charges which are made for the services of the musicians at dances.

The telephone system that was opened yesterday is causing all kinds of complications with the beginners, who do not understand how to use it, but the instruments are giving perfect satisfaction when properly used.

The man with an ax to grind at the coming city election is now sullying forth and is the attable person met at all places these days.

Tickets for the calico ball which will be given to assist the firemen of this city in selling rapidly. This is a good thing to do, and there is no more deserving way to spend it than by assisting so worthy a cause.

F. Medhurst, the financial agent of the Lexington, will leave for the East on Friday morning in company with W. A. Clark.

Robert Blickensderfer, chief engineer of the Utah & Northern, is at the St. Nicholas.

E. B. Gilmore of Omaha, Neb., is in the city visiting his many friends.

New York Hotels.

[New Yorker.] Some thirty odd millions of dollars (probably more) will be invested in the next few years in hotels. The vast Astor hotel at Long Acre is already approaching completion. Near by a skyscraper will be erected on the corner of Broadway and Forty-second street. These hotels will have underground connections with the subway tunnel and thence to the Grand Central and Pennsylvania railroad station, when it is completed. Then there will be the 32-story hotel to be erected on the enlarged site of the old Brunswick hotel, and later, undoubtedly, will come the new Fifth avenue hotel. "As these hotels will be 'refined,' 'select' and 'exclusive' in character," says mine host Boldt, adding: "Reflect for a moment. All the hotels in this city at present cannot accommodate fifty thousand persons per night; yet, with the steadily increasing floating or traveling population, this number is a conservative estimate of the demand that will soon be made on the hotels of the 'metropolis.'"

What We Owe the Birds.

A writer in the Rochester Post Express celebrating Bird day, says that it has been said that if birds should be totally destroyed it would be impossible for human beings to become thoroughly informed on this point he wrote to J. Hart Merriman, chief of the division of ornithology of the United States department of agriculture at Washington, asking for his opinion. His reply is as follows: "If all bird life was destroyed from the face of the earth it would not be possible for man to long survive, since insect life would increase so rapidly as to be beyond control of insecticides. They would consume every

BUTTE AMUSEMENTS



PETITE RHEA CHASE—A clever and popular member of the Imperial stock. The Imperial stock company put on "Beyond Pardon" at the Grand last night. The piece is well staged and the company is good throughout. Another change of the cast will come Friday, when "Our American Cousin" will be produced.

"Much Ado About Nothing."

Lovers of Shakespearean comedy will have their innings tonight week at the Broadway, when "Much Ado About Nothing" will be presented by Mr. Charles B. Hanford and his company of players.

With the two leading personages holding antagonistic ideas on the subject of marriage, an audience is interested right from the start in the doings of Benedick and Beatrice. From their first disagreement and apparent dislike to each other, comedy situations are created of exquisite sensibility and the keenest humor; and when the spirit of love begins to dawn upon the minds of these dominant characters the attention of the listener becomes increasingly absorbing as the action of the story develops into the customary ending

to all well-constructed comedies, the prospect of a speedy marriage.

The genius of Shakespeare has given to the world a couple of broad comedy characters in Dogberry and Verges, made famous by their clownish ignorance, albeit they are officers of the law.

Shakespeare never fails to hold up to ridicule these minor representatives of justice, no doubt bearing in his mind his arrest when a young man for deer stealing or was it poaching?

With Mr. Hanford as Benedick, Marie Drosnah as Beatrice, Rose Curry as Hero, Fred Forrester as Don Pedro and Stuart Beebe as Don John, the efficiency of the principal parts is assured.

Two excellent character actors, Mr. Ferd Hight and R. L. Allen, are well placed as Dogberry and Verges.

JAPANESE EMPEROR GRANTS A NEW PORT

Mororan, on the Island of Gesso, Is the Place He Has Chosen.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 11.—According to a dispatch received here from Vladivostok, the emperor of Japan has declared Mororan, on the island of Yesso, to be a free port for the free exportation of all Japanese goods and for the free importations of sugar, provisions, railroad materials, agricultural and commercial implements and machinery, wax, hemp, printing paper, mineral and vegetable oils, cords and braids.

PERSONAL

John D. Wing of Millbrook, N. Y., has a herd of about 70 sheep, each as black as ink. There is perhaps no other collection of these freaks of nature in the world.

The famous Ward McAllister farm, near Newport, R. I., where McAllister wrote the edition de luxe of "What I Know of Society," has been rented to Morgan Barry, an Irish farmer, for farming purposes.

The Maharajah of Baroda has a piece of woven work which cost over \$1,000,000. It is only 10x6 feet in size, but is woven from strings of pearls, with a center and corner circles of diamonds. It was three years in the making.

Dr. Edward Everett Hale says if he were a millionaire he would buy a large tract of land near Boston, divide it into four-acre lots, build a small house on each lot and present them to the poor at a nominal rental and at the end of 10 years give them the houses.

Prof. Koch, the noted bacteriologist, declares that typhoid fever can be stamped out through proper treatment of each case. He urges that every case of typhoid fever be as strictly isolated as a case of cholera, and by such isolation the disease could be wholly exterminated.

Kaiser Wilhelm has taken to wearing nose glasses while reading on railway trains, following his fad of wearing a monocle after the English fashion. By the way, in explanation of the fact that Germany is a spectacle-wearing country, it is pointed out that the Teutonic or black letter is much more difficult to read than the Roman character.

Bishop Doane of Albany is chairman of an executive committee appointed by Episcopal, Presbyterian and Methodist churches to aid in securing uniform marriage and divorce laws. The movement which culminated in the selection of this committee has been going on for some time. The design is to secure the co-operation of all religious bodies in making marriages and divorce less easy and in removing abuses connected with both.

Didn't Patronize Her Father.

[Philadelphia Ledger.] A young woman living in a suburban village has turned her graceful talent for dancing to account by carrying on the instruction of the young folks in the neighborhood in that art. At the beginning of the term her class was attended by an awkward, overgrown girl, who was much in need of culture. She was the daughter of a local undertaker. After two lessons she discontinued attendance, and one of her acquaintances asked her why she had given up her lessons. "Well," said she, "Miss Walsh never patronizes my father, and so I won't patronize her school."



THE JAPANESE EMPEROR.

ASKS CO-OPERATION

National Trades Congress of Canada Appeals to Laboring Men.

Best and Worst.

[Baltimore American.] "Is this the best worst you can send me?" asked the lady who walked into the meat store with a package of that edible in her hand. "Madam," answered the meat man, "it is the best worst we have."

"Well, it is the worst worst I ever saw." "I am sorry to hear that. The best I can do is to try and send you some better worst from today's lot; but as I said, that is the best worst we have at present. I am sure, however, that the worst we are now making will not be any worse than this, and it ought to be better. I assure you that as soon as I get the worst you shall have the best of it. We never gave any one the worst of it so long as we have been in the worst business, and you may be sure that when we give you your worst it will be the best, for our worst worst is better worst than the best worst of our competitors."

But the lady, whose eyes had taken on a stare of glassiness, was seen to throw up her hands and flee from the place, for she was afraid the worst was yet to come.

If

[St. Paul Dispatch.] If Judge Parkers should prove a man upon whom the democrats can unite he would be valuable even in defeat as the prime curiosity of American politics.

Billiards at the Puster.

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